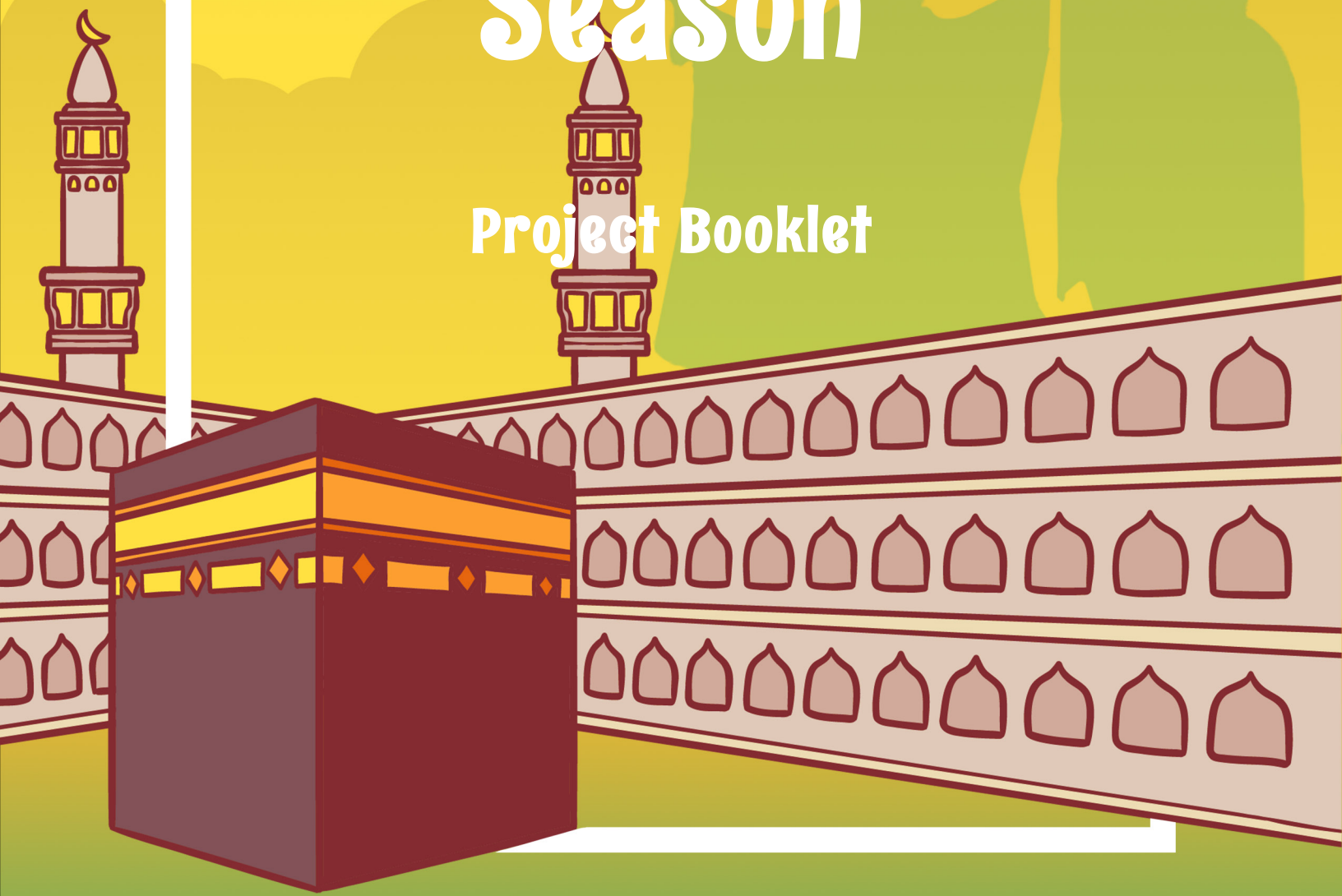
Book 4

Hajj & Wilayah Season

Project Booklet



Under the Guidance of Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for
the sponsors of this project booklet.

Important dates in Dhul Ḥijjah

1st	Marriage of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa)
7th	Shahādah of Imām Muḥammad al-Bāqir (ʿa)
8th	Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa) leaves from Mecca to Karbalāʾ in 60 AH
9th	Shahādah of Muslim ibn ʿAqīl & Night of ʿArafah
10th	Eid ul-Aḍḥā
15th	Wilādah of Imām ʿAlī al-Hādī an-Naqī (ʿa)
18th	Eid al-Ghadīr
23rd	Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) gave his ring as charity, in rukūʿ
24th	Eid al-Mubāhalah & the Event of Ḥadīth al-Kisāʾ
25th	Sūrah al-Insān (Sūrah ad-Dahr) was revealed

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INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION:

Glued to My Crafts: Paper Plate Ice Cream Truck
123 Easy Paper Crafts: Paper Candles
Teachers Pay Teachers: Teach Me to Pray Hand
Faith Sprouts: Journey to Bethlehem

cover: freepik

بِسۡمِ اللّٰہِ الرَّحۡمٰنِ الرَّحِیۡمِ

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Salāmun ʿalaykum! May Allah (swt) bless you and your families.

Alḥamdulillāh, we will soon begin the month of Dhul Ḥijjah, the last month of the Islamic year. This is the month of Ḥajj and wilāyah. Millions of Muslims across the world gather in Mecca to perform the various acts of Ḥajj. When we think about Ḥajj, we immediately think about the Holy Kaʿbah, and how it is a symbol of unity for all Muslims. Regardless of race, status, or ethnicity, everyone who comes for Ḥajj wears the same garment and goes through an intensive course of self building and servitude to Allah (swt).

Ḥajj is a demonstration of great presence of unity and prosperity. During this time, the exchange of mindsets, thoughts, and dialogue of so many different people occurs. Despite all the difficulties and differences, this is one place of commonality that creates a hope for peace. When people gather on the plains of ʿArafah, Muzdalifah, and Mina, it is a symbol and reminder of the gathering that will happen on the day of Judgment.

Ḥajj is a platform for creating human beings. When a person finishes Ḥajj, they become a *ḥajji,* which stems from the word *ḥujjah*. They have undergone an amazing process of self purification and self building, and Allah (swt) awards them the title of being *ḥujjatul Islam*, a proof of Islam. They return as pure as a baby without sins. For 40 days angels do *ṭawāf* around them, and it is mustaḥab for people to go visit them after they return.

A very special event that took place in this month is the event of Ghadīr. It is considered the greatest eid that we celebrate each year. It was when Allah (swt) asked the Prophet (ṣ) to announce the wilāyah of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and the rest of the Imāms (ʿa). This announcement of wilāyah completed the message of the Prophet (ṣ) and Islam that he had been preaching for so many years. Wilāyah is not just about one person, it is the mission of all the prophets, and is the continuation of the path of *ḥaqq* and *bāṭil*.

Once, when they were children, Imām Ḥasan (ʿa) and Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa) had fevers. Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) and Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) made a *nadhr* to fast for three days when the boys recovered and Lady Fiḍḍa joined them as well in this *nadhr*. Allah (swt) accepted their prayers and both the children recovered from their illness. The whole family fasted in fulfillment of the *nadhr*. Each day, when they went to open their fast, a person would come to their door asking for food. They gave all of their food away and only opened their fast with water. In appreciation of these sacrifices, Almighty Allah (swt) revealed the whole Sūrah ad-Dahr.

This sūrah introduces a complete human as someone who is recognized by his/her sacrifice and thankfulness, not by money or status. Allah (swt) has given us complete free will, but Allah (swt) praises the human who makes great choices, sacrifices, and is grateful. One of the signs of *shukr* is the act of sajdah. Out of so many actions, Allah (swt) gives precedence to the *shukr* and sajdah of human beings over angels, because human beings do this by choice.

The practice of *nadhr* has been a part of human history since ancient times, and it has been mentioned in many examples from the lives of the Prophets and their descendants. If we make a *nadhr* that means we make an intention (*niyyah*) to Allah (swt) that if something favorable happens, we will do something in return, such as fasting, feeding the poor, or performing ziyārah or umrah. Fulfilling a *nadhr* is best practice but is only compulsory when all the conditions are met. Here are some examples in history where *nadhr* was used:

1. The two sons of Prophet Ādam (ʿa) presented their *nadhr* to Allah (swt): one presented a goat and the other presented twigs of grain that he had grown.
2. Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) prayed for a child and as a *nadhr* left his son and wife to serve the pilgrims at the Kaʿbah.
3. Ḥaḍrat Maryam's mother prayed to Allah (swt) and said if she is blessed with a son she would dedicate him for service to Allah (swt) and Ḥaḍrat Maryam (ʿa) was born.
4. Prophet Zakariyyā (ʿa) prayed and made a *nadhr* for a son and was blessed with Prophet Yaḥyā (ʿa).

We pray that through the lessons of this booklet, which focus on *wilāyah,* we are able to increase our *maʿrifah,* and strengthen our wilāyah of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), inshāʾAllāh.

Jazākallāh Khayr and Best Wishes,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)
Resident ʿĀlim of SABA Islamic Center

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A Sweet Journey

Objective: Students will learn about the physical and spiritual journey of Ḥajj.

As we all know, we are celebrating Dhūl Ḥijjah, the last month of the Islamic calendar. According to verse 27 of Sūrah al-Ḥajj (22), Allah (swt) had asked Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) to inform people about the Ḥajj. The Arabic word "Ḥajj" literally means a proof, demonstration, or an intention of doing something important. The Qurʾān defines Ḥajj as an act of worship. It refers to the act of going to the Kaʿbah in Mecca and performing various rituals.

The act of Ḥajj is not just a physical journey, but also a social and spiritual one.

- Social: Ḥajj is a great display of unity and a reminder that Muslims of all colors, languages, nationalities come together in Mecca to perform the best of actions. By completing the steps of Ḥajj, we start our journey towards striving to become a better human being.
- Spiritual: Imām Jaʿfar aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa) has described the Kaʿbah, saying it is "the station of the Prophets and the focal point (qiblah) for those who pray to Him. It is a branch of His good pleasure and a way that leads to His forgiveness."[1] From this, we can see that Ḥajj is a time for us to get closer to Allah (swt) by visiting this holy place that is a center point for our worship.

Ḥajj can be seen as a vehicle for us to attain humanity, a holistic package to make us better. Today, we are going to make a craft that will show us how we can start a sweet holistic journey towards becoming insān kāmil.

1 Mīzān al-Ḥikmah, Ḥadīth #1600

Ḥajj Truck

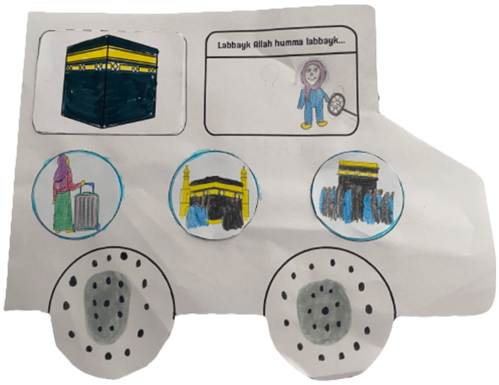
Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 30 minutes

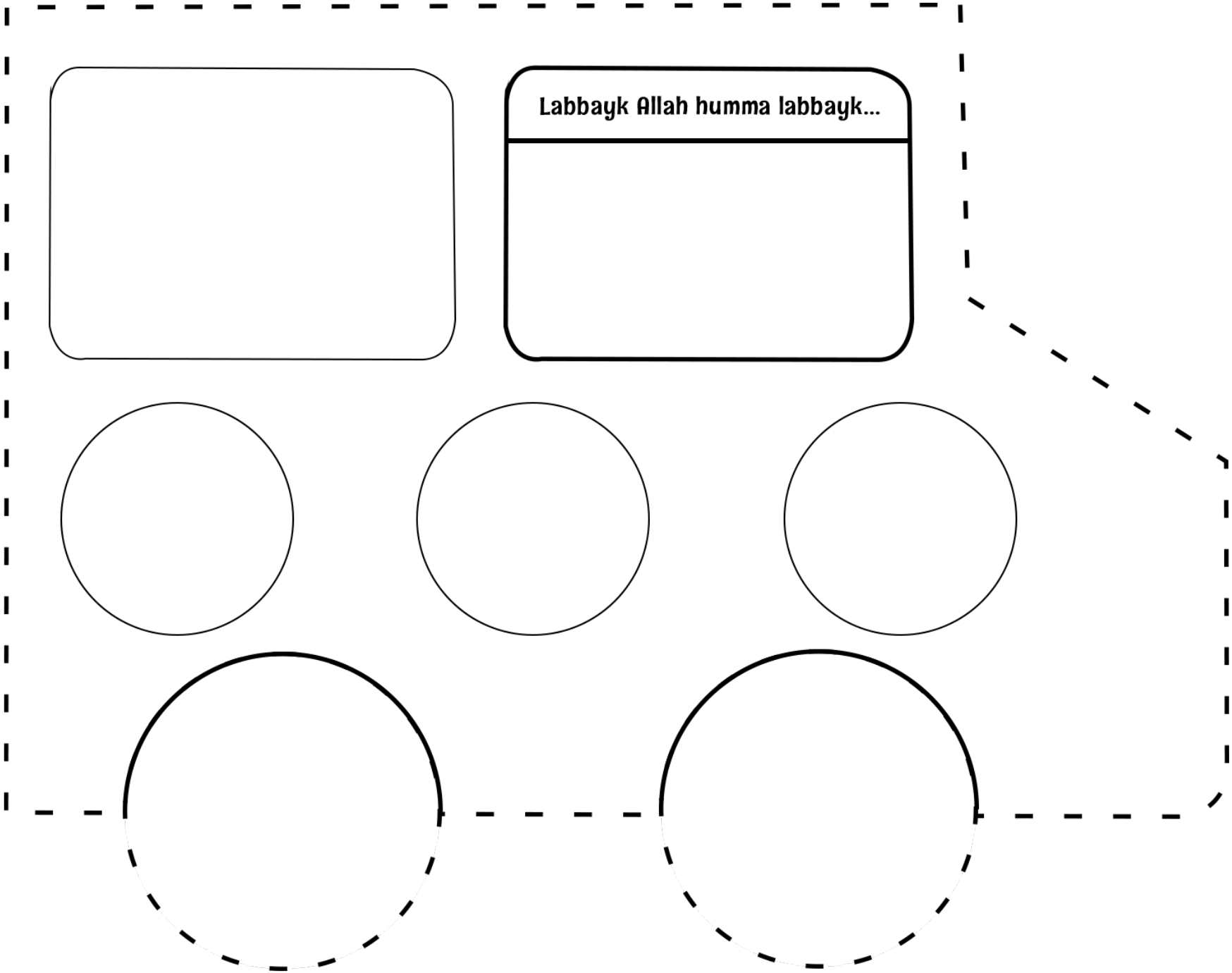
Materials:

- Truck template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:



1. Color and decorate the truck and pictures however you like.
2. Cut out the truck and pictures by cutting along the dotted lines.
3. Glue the Kaʿbah picture in the blank rectangle.
4. Glue the 3 circles to the truck in the 3 blank circles. These represent how Ḥajj is a physical, social, and spiritual journey.
5. In the window, draw yourself "driving" the truck.
6. Finish coloring and decorating however you like.


Labbayk Allah humma labbayk...

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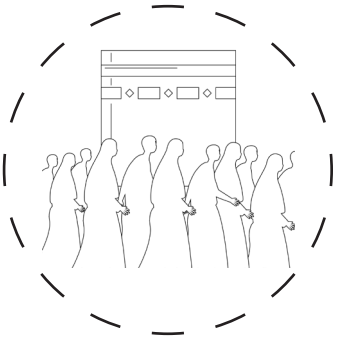

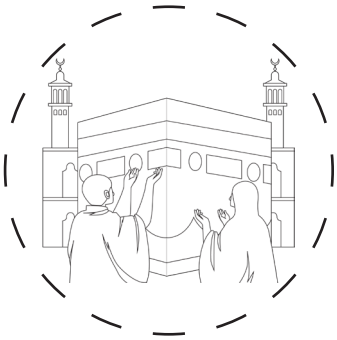

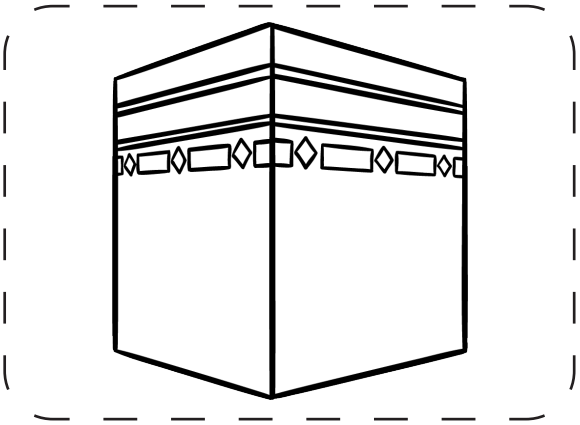

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Learning to Give

Objective: Students will learn about what it means to sacrifice in Islam.

The 12th month of the Islamic Calendar starts with the celebration of Eid al-Aḍḥā, which teaches us the meaning of sacrifice. Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) was willing to make such a big sacrifice because of his strong faith and devotion towards Allah (swt). This characteristic of sacrifice, along with patience, reliance on Allah (swt), piety, and self control, are what strengthen our connection with Allah (swt). So what does sacrifice mean for us today?

In this day and age, we can learn to share and care by giving the best that we have to others. This can help us to reform ourselves. When we sacrifice something for someone else, we shouldn't think of it as hardship, but as a way towards Allah (swt). Think about a candle. It burns to give light, and while it is shining, it is "sacrificing" itself. Similarly, when we do anything in the way of Allah (swt), even if we have to give something up, we can still shine.

This week of Ḥajj also ends with the shahādah of Ḥaḍrat Muslim ibn ʿAqīl, the cousin of Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa). His sacrifice can be seen as the beginning of Karbalāʾ, the eternal sacrifice of the Prophet's family. Both events hold great significance and show us unconditional love and commitment. Being selfless and giving is one step on the journey of becoming insān kāmil, or a better person. Today, we are going to make a craft that will remind us of the importance of sacrifice.

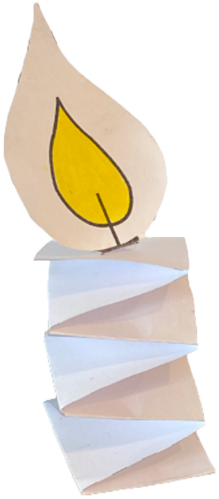
Candle of Sacrifice

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

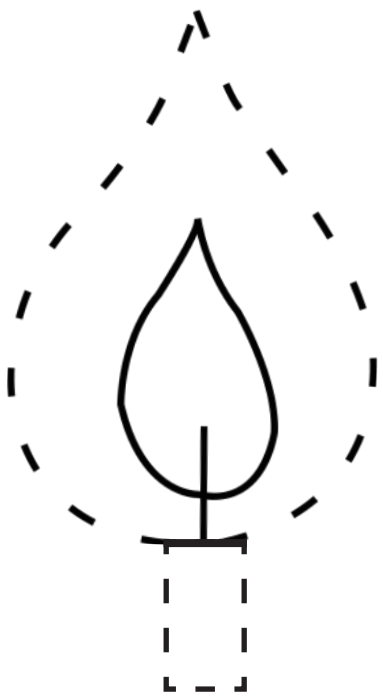
Materials:

- Candle template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Optional: 2 pieces of colored paper



Procedure:

1. Color and decorate images in the template however you like.
2. Cut out the 2 rectangles and the candle fire by cutting along the dotted lines.
3. Line up one end of the first rectangle with one end of the other rectangle perpendicularly.
4. Glue the two ends to each other to secure them.
5. Flip the first rectangle over the other and gently fold.
6. Flip the other rectangle over the first and gently fold.
7. Do this over and over again, like a braid, until you reach the end of both rectangles.
8. Glue the ends together so that it doesn't unravel.
9. Optional: you can make the candlestick from colored paper instead.
10. Take the candle fire and fold along the small solid line. This will create a small flap.
11. Glue this flap to the top of the candlestick.



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Lesson 3: Community Connectors

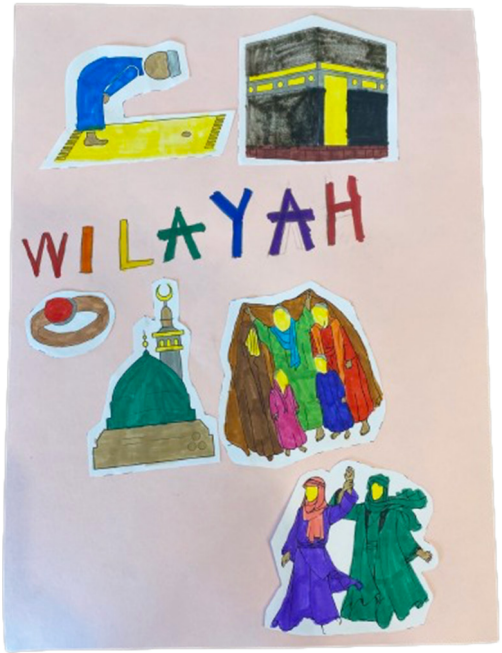
Objective: Students will learn about wilāyah and who our guardians are.

The month of Dhul Ḥijjah is a time when we strive to strengthen our wilāyah. Wilāyah relates to the idea of guardianship and protection. A guardian is someone who guards and protects. When we talk about guardianship in Islam, we are referring to the connection between us and our guardians, those who protect and guard Islam.

In the Qurʾān, Allah (swt) says, "Verily your guardian is Allah and His Messenger and those who accept faith and establish prayer and give zakāt while they are bowing down." In the last part of the āyah, Allah (swt) is describing Imām ʿAlī (ʿa). He once gave his ring to a beggar while in rukūʿ after no one had answered the beggar's call for help. Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and the rest of the maʿṣūmīn are role models for us in all aspects of life. This means that wilāyah is a source of guidance for the believers and is a way to get closer to Allah (swt).

In addition, wilāyah is the glue that binds us together and encourages us to serve our community. This fosters social harmony and improves our society. Today, we will be making a collage to help us visualize the concept of wilāyah.

Craft Name



Suggested Ages: 5+

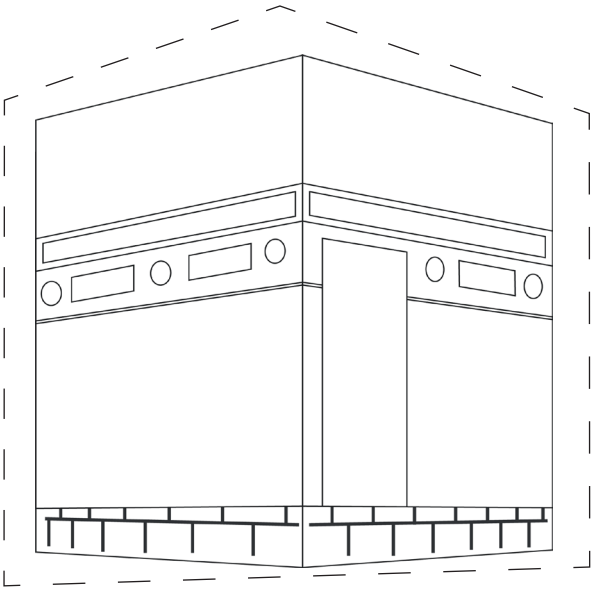
Time: 40 minutes

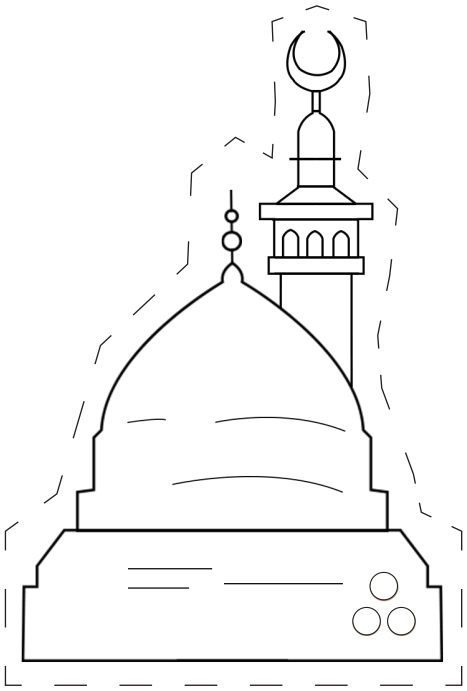
Materials:

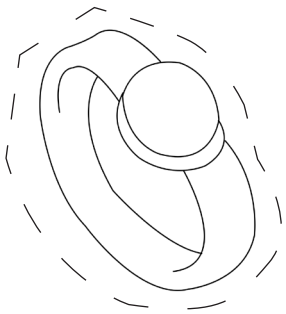
- Collage template
- Construction paper
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

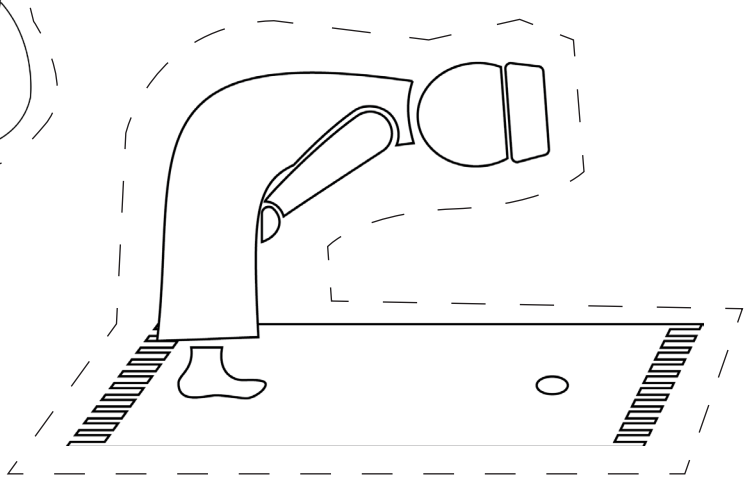
Procedure:

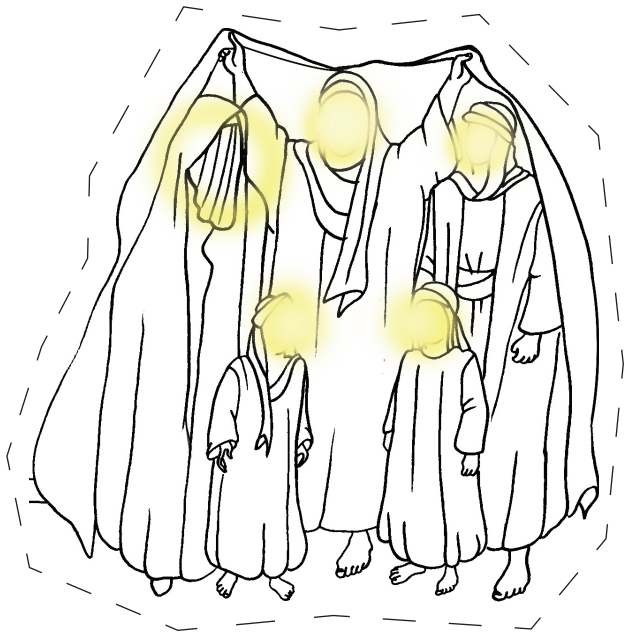
1. Color and decorate the pictures in the template however you like.
2. Cut out the pictures by cutting along the dotted lines.
3. Now let's make the collage. Write "Wilayah" in the middle of the construction paper.
4. Glue the pictures to the construction paper to make the collage.
5. You can draw and write anything else that relates to wilayah.
6. Finish coloring and decorating however you like.

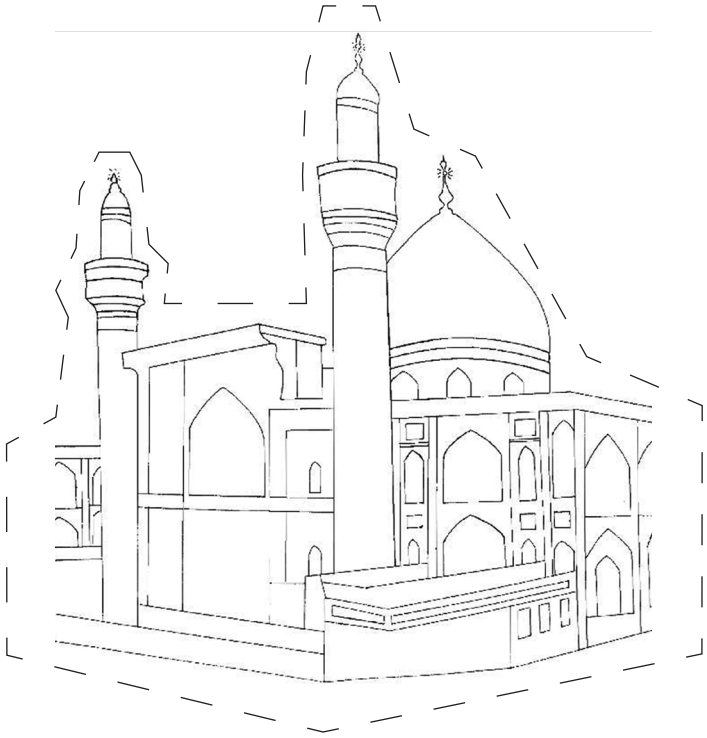












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I Promise to My Imām...

Objective: Students will learn about a special promise we should make to our Imām.

During the month of Dhul Ḥijjah, another important eid we celebrate is Eid al-Ghadīr. Eid al-Ghadīr is a significant event celebrated by Muslims all over the world. It commemorates the Prophet Muḥammad's announcement of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) as his successor at the pond of Ghadīr Khum. This event signifies the importance of leadership and unity in Islam.

By the command of Allah (swt), the Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) delivered a sermon and announced Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) as his successor. He asked the people to pledge their allegiance to Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and to recognize him as their leader and guide. Every year, on this significant day, we are reminded of this pledge and are encouraged to follow in the footsteps of Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) and the Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ).

Our mission in life should be to uphold the values of Islam and to serve humanity with compassion and kindness. Our promise to our Imām (ʿaj) is to lead a life that is dedicated to Allah (swt) and to follow the teachings of the Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) and his Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa). By doing so, we can create a world that is filled with justice, peace, and harmony. Today, we are going to do an activity that we can use to visualize our promises to our Imām (ʿaj) that we can make on this auspicious day.

Promise Hand

I promise to pray Salah on time
I promise to help my mom with chores
I promise to share my toys
I promise to be nice to my siblings

Suggested Ages: 5+

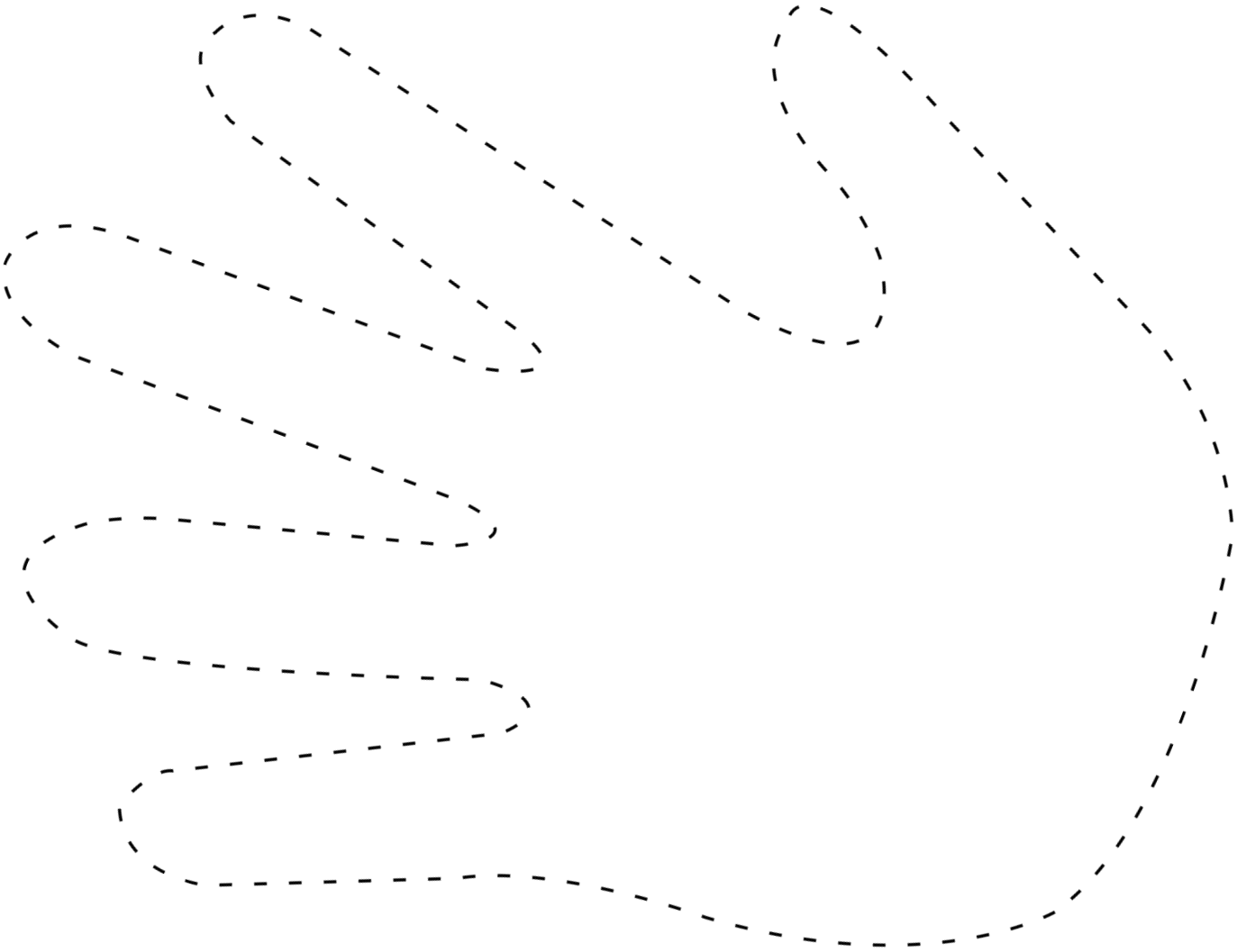
Time: 30 minutes

Materials:

- Hand template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Optional: Colored paper

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the hand template however you like.
2. Optional: you can trace your hand on a colored paper and continue the activity there.
3. On each finger, write a promise you can make to your Imām.
4. Finish coloring and decorating however you like.



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Rise & Shine

Objective: Students will learn how our guides can bring us closer to Allah (swt).

Once, the noble Prophet (ṣ) visited the house of his beloved daughter, Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa). He asked for his Yemeni kisāʾ (blanket/cloak) and covered himself with it. Soon after, Imām Ḥasan (ʿa), Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa), Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), and Sayyidah Fāṭimah (ʿa) joined him under the kisāʾ. When these five people were covered with the kisāʾ, Allah (swt) made clear they were were the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) or the people of the Prophet's household. This story has come to be known as Ḥadīth al-Kisāʾ.

Often when we gather for a majlis or milad, we recite the story of Ḥadīth al-Kisāʾ. This is a very special story that blesses the gathering. The event of Kisāʾ is a significant event in the history of Islam that symbolized the unity, purity, and love within this blessed family. It also made clear who the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa) are and how close they are to Allah (swt).

Their high status is what makes them the best guides for us. Their close relationship with Allah (swt) was a result of the good choices they made and the actions they took. By doing the same, we can also rise and shine, not just in this world, but also in the hereafter. Today, we are going to make a craft that shows how we can make good choices every day and follow the guidance of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

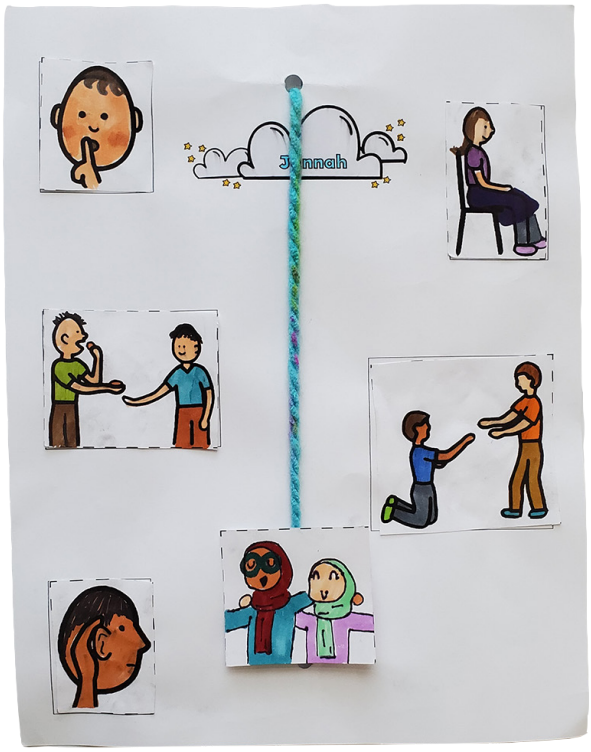
Good Deeds Craft

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

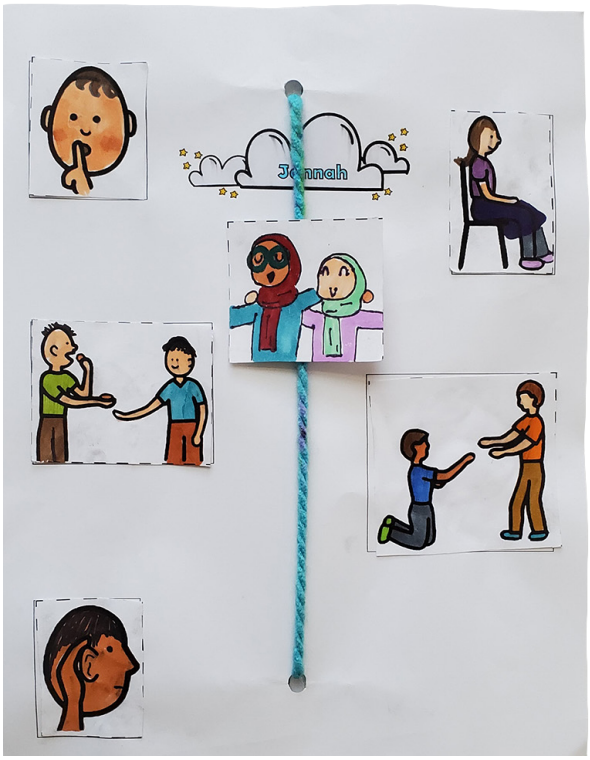
Materials:

- Craft template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue/tape
- Yarn/string



Procedure:

1. Look at the pictures on the second page of the template.
2. Cross out the ones that are bad deeds.
3. Color the ones that are good deeds and cut them out along the dotted lines.
4. Glue the good deeds in the boxes on the first page of the template.
5. In the blank square, draw yourself. Cut out that square.
6. Color and decorate the first page of the template however you like.
7. Carefully punch 2 holes at the solid black dots.
8. Thread the yarn or string through the holes and tie it in the back. Make sure the knot is at the top of the page.
9. Attach the picture of yourself to the yarn using glue or tape, at the bottom of the page.
10. Now gently pull the knot at the back of the page toward the bottom. It should move the picture up toward Jannah.



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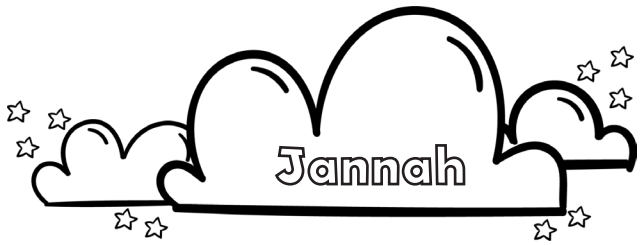
Jannah

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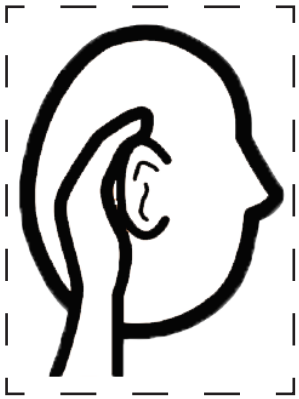

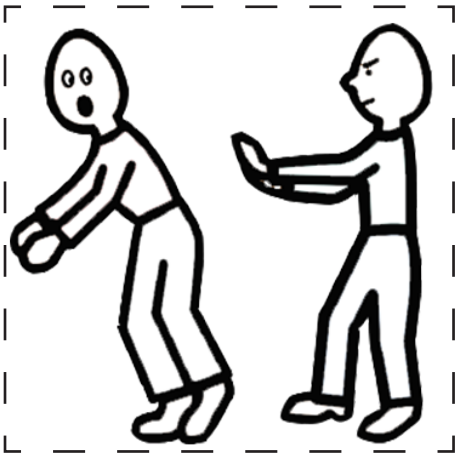

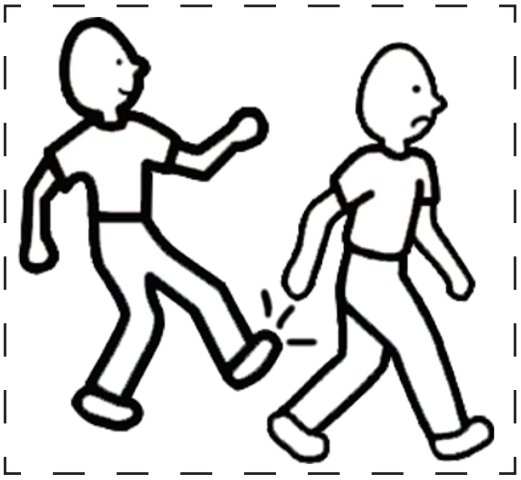

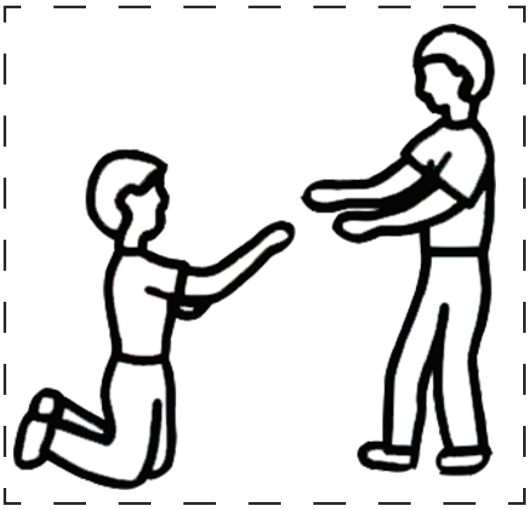

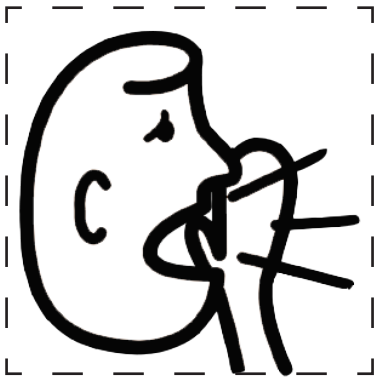

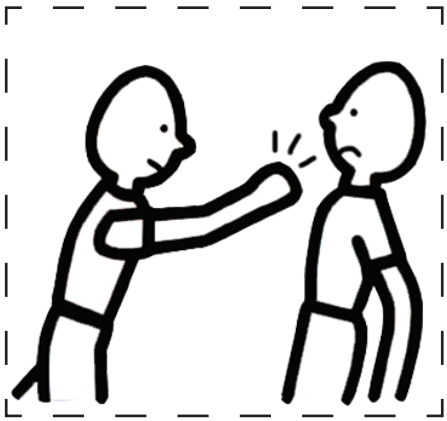

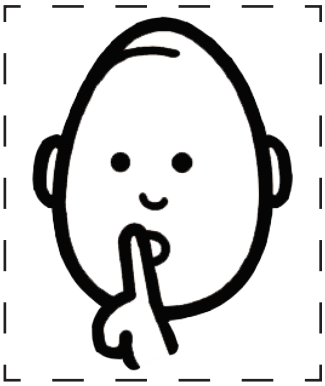

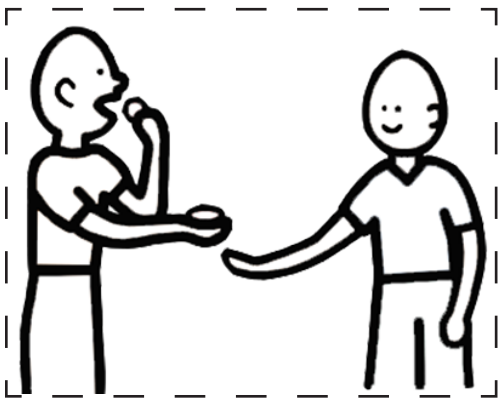

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AL-KISA FOUNDATION

UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY